



MINERAL VIEW NEWSLETTER

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOMELAND SECURITY & 911

Mineral County, West Virginia

August 9, 2007

Issue 3

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cooperation of the
Local Emergency
Planning Committee

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MEETING DATES

LEPC – October 11
2ND Thursday 6 PM
Jan, Apr, July, Oct
County Health Dept

911 ADVISORY
BOARD – October 18
3RD Thursday
7:30 PM Jan, Apr, July,
Oct
County Court House

FIRE FIGHTERS
ASSOCIATION
2ND Wednesday
7:30 PM monthly.
Location varies

AMBULANCE
AUTHORITY – Aug 14
2ND Tuesday, 7 PM
Feb, Apr, June, Aug,
Oct, Dec.
Location varies

CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION
4TH Thursday, 7 PM
Monthly
Location varies

COUNTY
COMMISSION
2ND Tues. – 9:30 AM
4TH Tues. – 4:30 PM
Monthly
County Court House

AED TASK FORCE

Under direction of the Mineral County Commission, the Automatic External Defibrillator Task Force (AED-TF) was established in 2006. The AED-TF was chartered to explore the opportunities available to provide rapid AED intervention to cardiac events in Mineral County



County Commissioner Wayne Spiggle leads the AED-TF with members from local EMS, OEM, and business interests meeting to develop and execute a plan. A successful grant application to the State of West Virginia, provided AED units to distribute in Mineral County. The AED-TF evaluated potential sites in the County based on public assembly, public access, site willingness, and overall potential benefit. The first site to complete training and installation is at the Mineral County Health Department (pictured to the left).

The Court House and Sheriff's Office staff have conducted training and will receive their AED's soon. Additional sites have been contacted and are in varying stages of program participation. With this grant, the AED-TF plans to place ten AED's at various locations throughout Mineral County (certain grant requirements limit the placement location options).



All of the AED's currently obtained are manufactured by "Zoll" (pictured above) Any questions about the program should be directed to the OEM at 304-788-1821.

IN-CASE-OF-EMERGENCY (ICE)

After several bombing attacks in London, the ICE cell-phone program has spread world-wide. Initiated by British paramedic Bob Brotchie, mobile/cellular phone users are urged to enter a telephone number into their contact list with the label I C E (in case of emergency) listed before the contact name. Emergency responders will be able to swiftly search the contacts for "ICE", and use the ICE number to contact a relative or friend, who should be able to help identify deceased victims and/or treat injured victims by providing vital personal information, including any known medical history – in the event you are incapacitated or otherwise unable to provide that information.

Brotchie says, "... you first agree with (the ICE) person that they be the ICE contact, so they're aware of it. They must (be able to) confirm your date of birth, your name, and preferably your address. Hopefully, the ICE contact will be aware of things such as allergies, blood type, and any previous medical history that may be relevant. We can then get that information to the hospital... hopefully expediting treatment. The hope is that the next-of-kin contact can meet us at the hospital at the same time and the treatment will be as rapid as it could possibly be."

ICE is certainly not a "fool-proof" system, unable to account for passwords, locked, or damaged equipment. ICE is, however, one more tool for responders to use to help identify, treat, and protect the public.

FIRE PREVENTION MONTH – OCTOBER 2007

"Practice Your Escape Plan!" — that's the message of Fire Prevention Week 2007. It's not enough just to HAVE a fire escape plan – it must be PRACTICED. To escape safely from a home fire you've got to make sure that everyone in the home has practiced the plan as well. According to a recent poll conducted for NFPA, while the majority of Americans have an escape plan in case of a fire, most haven't practiced it. Three-quarters of Americans believe they have 10 minutes or less until a fire turns deadly. From October 7-13, fire safety advocates across the country will be spreading the word that when it comes to escape plans, practice is key. Whether you're a firefighter, a teacher, or a parent, we all have a responsibility to each other and to our children to provide a safe environment and practice our escape plans.



Additionally, we should regularly check our smoke detectors, and change the batteries twice a year, at the revisions to daylight savings and standard time. The NFPA is encouraging everyone to join the "Great American Fire Drill" during October, with the theme of practicing or escape plans. Information about "Fire Prevention Week" or the "Great American Fire Drill" may be obtained at www.firepreventionweek.org. Contact your Mineral County fire stations for information on any local fire prevention events.

OPERATION SAFE STATE - \$3,000 GRANT AWARD

The Mineral County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security is pleased to announce the award of a \$3,000 regional grant by State Farm Insurance through Hayward Wilson, to conduct courtesy home fire inspections and distribute free smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Mineral County's "Operation Safe State" (www.operationsafestate.com) will work with Mineral County's fire companies to conduct the training and begin inspections and detector distribution. Any information about Mineral County's effort should be directed to the Office of Emergency Management at 304-788-1821.



EDITOR'S CORNER

911 CENTER –The new center will be built on Pine Swamp Road across from the Keyser High School entrance. For further information, contact OEM Director Marc Bashoor at 304-788-1821.

COOP/COG/EOP – Mineral County OEM has contracted with JH Consulting to assist with updating and completing our continuity of operations, continuity of government, and emergency operations plans. The Mineral County Health Department has granted \$2,750 towards this effort. Thanks to AJ Root and the County Commission for working together with OEM to move this project forward. Plans will be completed and appropriately distributed over the course of the next 12 months.

ADDRESSING & MAPPING – Mineral County is working with "IT Outdoors" to complete this project. Also working with the Baker Corporation and the State Addressing and Mapping Board, the project is expected to be completed in 2008.

AMBULANCE AUTHORITY ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT – Mineral County welcomes Susie Smith as the newly elected President of the Ambulance Authority. Susie has served in this position previously, and is working with OEM on relative issues.

VALLEY MEDICAL TO CEASE 911 AMBULANCE SERVICE – Valley Medical Incorporated has notified the Mineral County Commission that it will cease providing 911 dispatched ambulance service by the end of 2007. Although efforts continue to negotiate Valley's continued service, Mineral County companies are gearing up for the potential increased call volume and associated stresses on their volunteer memberships.

REGIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY PLANNER – Mineral County welcomes Pamela Holstein Wallace as the State Homeland Security Planner for the Potomac Highlands and Eastern Panhandle region. We look forward – to moving forward.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS and NEW SEAL –Mineral County OEM's new e-mail address is mineraloem@yahoo.com. The new seal (as seen on the back page) is consistent with the State Emergency Management moniker.

MINERAL VIEW – HIGHLIGHTS

Roy (JJ) Winger – Sheriff's Deputy & Fountain Volunteer Fire Fighter/Asst. Capt.

Encouraged by both family and friends, JJ joined the Fountain Volunteer Fire Department in 1993. At the time, Fountain ran an average of 70 calls per year. Over the years, JJ has held the positions of Lieutenant, Captain, and Company President. Fountain now runs over 300 calls for service annually, and until recently provided hazardous materials team response to Mineral County. JJ holds the training certifications of Firefighter II, Fire Officer I, Hazardous Materials Technician, and EMT-B, while also working part-time with Valley Medical Transport. JJ looks forward to growing in the fire/EMS service and continuing to serve his community.



JJ & "Dutch"

After graduating from Keyser High School and working for Valley Medical, JJ took the position as a Mineral County Sheriff's Deputy in 2001. He has been a "Road Deputy", having graduated from the West Virginia State Police Basic Police Academy, 111th class, in 2001. JJ has taken the training and accepted his newest partner, "Dutch", a two year old Belgian Malinois. JJ and "Dutch" are trained in

explosive/firearm recognition, patrol, and tracking. Daily training, keeps both of their skills at the top of their "game", which will help to carry "Dutch" through her expected service life of five years or more. The pair was recently successful in tracking and apprehending a suspect in the Elk Garden area, assisting the State Police after a pursuit. They were also successful with the apprehension of six individuals after a 911 dispatch for an armed robbery. JJ and "Dutch" have been involved in numerous bomb threats and law enforcement investigations.

JJ maintains a positive working attitude, however he sees staffing, pay levels, rising call volumes, and increased responsibilities as impediments to local emergency services being able to be progressive and proactive, instead of constantly reactive. Additionally, he feels that the explosive population growth is leading towards a populace that expects and demands certain levels of service that the local emergency services may not be able to reach without help.

Burlington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc – Company 44



Chief: Randy Henderson
President: Kenny Delawder



The Burlington Volunteer Fire Department, in the town of Burlington, was established in 1922 with seven original members. The Company reorganized and was chartered in 1932. The BVFD's first engine was a 1912 Packard, while their next piece, a 1929 GMC, is restored and maintained today as a parade piece. Burlington was a thriving railroad community where local members would have to stoke the wood boiler every night at the firehouse (pictured above left), with Ms. Weaver alerting the company by pushing buttons on one of five special telephones in the community. As the railroad went, so went the town. Although the center of old Burlington is an historic landmark, the once thriving community is now more of a patchwork of longtime family homesteads with local businesses and the popular apple harvest festival in September. Today, the BVFD has a robust membership of 65 members, including 24 EMT's and 3 paramedics. Ambulance service, previously provided by the local funeral homes, was taken over by the BVFD in the 1970's. Today 70% to 80% of the BVFD's calls are EMS related, with vehicle collisions accounting for over 140 calls per year. The BVFD maintains two ALS equipped ambulances.

The original fire house served as the only firehouse until 1968. In 1970, with a new firehouse (the right half of the picture above right), the company ran seven (7) calls a year, while 2006 saw the company alerted to over 500 calls for service (from the firehouse pictured above right). BVFD members constructed a two-bay car wash that served as the primary fund raiser for many years. While the car wash remains today, the hall portion of the firehouse has become a community center of sorts, with hall rentals taking up the remainder of available time.

Apparatus: 2004 Ford/Pierce rescue mini-pumper; 750 GPM w/250 gal. tank; 2004 Pierce/International tanker; 550 GPM w/2,000 gal. tank; 1999 Pierce Sabre Rescue Engine 1,000 GPM w/750 gal. tank; 1990 Pierce Dash Engine/Tanker, 1,000 GPM w/1,000 gal. tank; 1993 Chevrolet Suburban Command/Utility; 1985 Chevrolet brush truck 125 GPM w/200 gal. tank; 2007 Ford/McCoy Miller Ambulance; 1990 Ford/Wheeled Coach Ambulance; and not pictured – 1929 GMC, 500 GPM w/100 gal. tank.

NEW CREEK VFD – AMBULANCE SERVICE

The New Creek Volunteer Fire Department membership recently voted to accept the responsibility of ambulance transport service. The Mineral County Ambulance Authority approved to allocate an ambulance to New Creek, with their first unit (1995 Ford/Med Tek 4x4) being available due to the Ridgeley VFD receiving a new ambulance. The anticipated in-service date for BLS/ALS 38-70 is September 1, 2007. Congratulations to New Creek and the Mineral County Ambulance Authority.

TRAINING CORNER

DISASTER EXERCISE – “Operation New Creek” ***HAS BEEN POSTPONED***. The reschedule date has not been set as of this printing. For further info or to VOLUNTEER YOUR ASSISTANCE, please contact Marc Bashoor at (304) 788-1821.

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS & IS100 – Class will be provided free of charge, with a working dinner provided – at the Keyser Firehouse #2, Wednesday August 29, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Local utility and public service district personnel along with elected officials and all emergency service members are invited to attend. Please RSVP before August 24 to the County Health Department at (304) 788-1321.

NIMS TRAINING – The Mineral County OEM will be hosting an IS300/400 course this fall at the Burlington Fire Department. Specific date and time information is not available as of this printing. Please contact the Mineral County OEM with any questions. Take on-line self-study courses for IS 100 & 200 at www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp (some classroom sessions are also available, although classroom is not required for IS 100, 200, 700, or 800). Classroom sessions of IS 300 & IS 400 are required for next level managers and above.

INCIDENT RESPONSE TO TERRORIST BOMBINGS & PREVENTION and RESPONSE TO SUICIDE BOMBERS
The Mineral County OEM would like to host this one-day combination of classes. Before we schedule dates, we need to gauge interest – presenters request 50 participants for the whole day. Contact Marc Bashoor at (304) 788-1821 if you are interested.

TRAINING CLASSES & WEB-SITES

(To provide specific classes or sites that we should highlight, contact the editor at mineraloem@yahoo.com)

- ♣ **National Incident Management System (NIMS):** www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp
- ♣ **West Virginia University, Fire Service Extension:** www.wvu.edu/~exten/depts/fireserv/fireserv.htm
- ♣ **Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) VIII:** <http://resa8.k12.wv.us/pbsvc>
- ♣ **National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC):** www.teex.com/nerrtc
- ♣ **New Mexico Tech – Respond! (EMRTC):** <http://respond.emrtc.nmt.edu/>
- ♣ **Storm Mountain Training Center:** www.stormmountain.com

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- ♣ Cold Weather Preparations
- ♣ 911 – A Dispatchers View
- ♣ Mapping & Addressing Program

